## **Claims**

- 1. A method of treating a subject with a microbially-based infection, comprising the administration of an effective amount of a compound to a subject in need of treatment, the compound being able to decrease ATP levels in the microbe by at least 10% compared to controls after 24 hours in an *in vitro* test, and not kill mammalian cells during the same time period, the decrease in ATP levels being measured by:
  - (1) removing the cells from the testing location and putting them on ice;
  - (2) harvesting the cells at 4 degrees C by centrifugation and disrupting it with beadbeating in an ATP extraction buffer;
  - (3) removing cellular debris by centrifugation at 4 degrees C, leaving an ATPcontaining supernatant;
  - (4) measuring the amount of ATP present in the supernatant by a bioluminescence assay at 4 degrees C;

wherein the compound is not of formula R-SO<sub>n</sub>-Z-CO-Y, wherein n is 1 or 2, R is a hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, Z is a hydrocarbon linking moiety that may contain a heteroatom, and Y is selected from -NH, -O-CH<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, -CO-CO-O-CH<sub>3</sub>, and -O-CH<sub>3</sub>.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a human.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is an animal.
- 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the subject is selected from the group consisting of horses, cattle, goats and sheep.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the compound is

7. The method of claim 5, wherein the compound is

8. The method of claim 5, wherein the compound is

9. The method of claim 5, wherein the compound is

10. The method of claim 5, wherein the compound is

11. The method of claim 5, wherein the compound is

12. The method of claim 5, wherein the compound is

13. The method of claim 5, wherein the compound is

- 14. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is infected with a microbe selected from the group consisting of M. tuberculosis, M. avium-intracellulare, M. leprae, M. paratuberculosis, M. ulcerans, and Rhodococcus.
- 15. A method of treating a subject with a microbially-based infection, comprising the administration of a compound to a subject in need of treatment, wherein the compound produces overexpression of the b-subunit of ATP synthase, and further wherein the compound is not of formula R-SO<sub>n</sub>-Z-CO-Y, wherein n is 1 or 2;

R is a hydrocarbon group having 6-20 carbon atoms, Z is a hydrocarbon linking moiety that may contain a heteroatom, and Y is selected from -NH, -O-CH<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>, -CO-CO-CH<sub>3</sub>, and -O-CH<sub>3</sub>.

- 16. The method of claim 15, wherein the subject is a human.
- 17. The method of claim 15, wherein the subject is an animal.
- 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the subject is selected from the group consisting of horses, cattle, and sheep.
- 19. The method of claim 15, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of:

The method of claim 19, wherein the compound is 20.

The method of claim 19, wherein the compound is 21.

The method of claim 19, wherein the compound is 22.

23. The method of claim 19, wherein the compound is

24. The method of claim 19, wherein the compound is

25. The method of claim 19, wherein the compound is

26. The method of claim 19, wherein the compound is

27. The method of claim 19, wherein the compound is

$$\mathsf{CH_3(H_2C)_8} \overset{\mathsf{O}}{\sim} \overset{\mathsf{O}}{\sim} \overset{\mathsf{O}}{\overset{\mathsf{O}}{\sim}} \overset{\mathsf{O}}{\underset{\mathsf{H}}{\sim}} \mathsf{OCH_3}$$